

# Friends of the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

c/o American Public Health Association  
800 I Street NW  
Washington DC, 20016  
202-777-2513

October 28, 2010

The Honorable Daniel Inouye  
Chairman  
Senate Appropriations Committee  
S-128, Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Thad Cochran  
Ranking Member  
Senate Appropriations Committee  
S-146A, Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tom Harkin  
Chairman  
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee  
on Labor, HHS and Education  
131 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jerry Lewis  
Ranking Member  
House Appropriations Committee  
1016 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable David Obey  
Chairman  
House Appropriations Committee  
2358 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Todd Tiahrt  
Ranking Member  
House Appropriations Subcommittee  
on Labor, HHS and Education  
1016 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senators Inouye, Cochran and Harkin and Representatives Obey, Lewis and Tiahrt:

**The undersigned members of the Friends of HRSA Coalition urge you to provide the highest possible FY 2011 funding level for the Health Resources and Services Administration as you work to conference the House and Senate FY 2011 Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations bills. This year, our coalition has advocated for an FY 2011 funding level of at least \$9.15 billion for HRSA.**

The Friends of HRSA coalition is a non-profit and non-partisan alliance of national organizations, collectively representing millions of public health and health care professionals, academicians and consumers. The coalition's principal goal is to ensure that HRSA's broad health programs receive the support necessary to reach the populations presently underserved by the nation's patchwork of health services.

As stated in earlier correspondence this year, we are appreciative of your past efforts to provide increased support for the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) in FY 2010. While recognizing the constraints of the current budgetary climate, our request of \$9.15 billion for HRSA in FY 2011 reflects the minimum amount necessary for the agency to adequately meet the needs of the populations it serves. The relatively level funding HRSA has received over the past several years has undermined the ability of its successful programs to grow; more is needed for the agency to achieve its ultimate mission of ensuring access to culturally competent, quality health services; eliminating health disparities; and rebuilding the public health and health care infrastructure.

Through its programs in every state and thousands of communities across the country, HRSA is a national leader in providing health services for individuals and families throughout the country and serves as a health safety net for the medically underserved including the 50.7 million Americans who were uninsured in 2009 and 50 million Americans who live in neighborhoods where primary health care services are scarce.

Greater investment is necessary to sufficiently fund HRSA services and programs that continue to face increasing demands. As Congress and the Administration move forward with implementation of the Affordable Care Act, we urge you to consider HRSA's role in building the foundation for health service delivery and ensuring that vulnerable populations transition smoothly into a new health system to receive quality health services, while continuing to strengthen our nation's health safety net programs. By supporting, planning for and adapting to change, we can build on the successes of the past and address new gaps that emerge as a result of health system reform.

We are grateful for your support in the past and **urge you to support the highest possible level of funding for the Health Resources and Services Administration in FY 2011 appropriations.**

Sincerely,

AIDS Action  
AIDS Foundation of Chicago  
AIDS Project Los Angeles  
Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine  
American Academy of Family Physicians  
American Academy of Nurse Practitioners  
American Academy of Pediatrics  
American Academy of Periodontology  
American Academy of Physician Assistants  
American Association of Colleges of Nursing  
American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine  
American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy  
American Association of Colleges of Podiatric Medicine  
American Association of Public Health Dentistry  
American College of Preventive Medicine  
American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists  
American Dental Association  
American Dental Education Association  
American Dental Hygienists' Association  
American Heart Association  
American Medical Student Association  
American Medical Women's Association  
American Music Therapy Association  
American Nurses Association  
American Occupational Therapy Association  
American Optometric Association  
American Physical Therapy Association  
American Podiatric Medical Association

American Public Health Association  
American Psychological Association  
American Society for Clinical Pathology  
American Thoracic Society  
Association of Academic Health Centers  
Association of Departments of Family Medicine  
Association of Family Medicine Residency Directors  
Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs  
Association of Minority Health Professions Schools  
Association of Organ Procurement Organizations  
Association of Professors of Medicine  
Association of Program Directors in Internal Medicine  
Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry  
Association of Schools of Public Health  
Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors  
Association of State and Territorial Health Officials  
Association of University Centers on Disabilities  
Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses  
Autism Society  
Charles Drew University of Medicine and Science  
Clerkship Directors in Internal Medicine  
Coalition for Health Services Research  
Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service  
Council of Accredited MPH Programs  
Council on Social Work Education  
Digestive Disease National Coalition  
Easter Seals  
Epilepsy Foundation  
Family Voices  
Health Professions Network  
Hepatitis Foundation International  
HIV Medicine Association  
Howard University Health Sciences  
Immune Deficiency Foundation  
March of Dimes Foundation  
Meharry Medical College  
Morehouse School of Medicine  
NAADAC, The Association for Addiction Professionals  
National AHEC Organization  
National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors.  
National Association of Chronic Disease Directors  
National Association of Community Health Centers  
National Association of County and City Health Officials  
National Association of Local Boards of Health  
National Association of Public Hospitals and Health Systems  
National Coalition of STD Directors  
National Council on Independent Living  
National Hemophilia Foundation

National Hispanic Medical Association  
North American Primary Care Research Group  
Partnership for Prevention  
Prevent Blindness America  
Pulmonary Hypertension Association  
Ryan White Medical Providers Coalition  
Society of General Internal Medicine  
Society of Teachers of Family Medicine  
TASH  
The AIDS Institute

Cc: Senate Appropriations Committee  
House Appropriations Committee